Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 02374 262326Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
DHA-02 ACDA-07 L-03 H-01 PRS-01 /075 W
----------087731 262340Z /66
O 262245Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4629
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2374

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PORG, UN, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-SOVIET RELATIONS AT 32ND UNGA

REF: A. STATE 173345(NOTAL); B. USUN 2264;
C. USUN 2266

1. SUMMARY: AMB LEONARD CALLED ON SOVIET CHARGE AMB KHARLAMOV JULY 25 TO REEMPHASIZE ASSURANCES THAT THE US SOUGHT COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION AT THE FORTHCOMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA). WHILE KHARLAMOV EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THESE ASSURANCES AND A DESIRE FOR COOPERATION, SOVIET RESERVE ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS WAS CLEAR. END SUMMARY.

2. LEONARD TOLD KHARLAMOV, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY PERMREP OVINNIKOV AND SENIOR COUNSELOR TULINOV, THAT HE WANTED TO REINFORCE WHAT HE HAD TOLD OVINNIKOV ON JULY 13 REGARDING US INTENTIONS AT THE 32ND UNGA (REFS B AND C). LEONARD SAID HE HAD REPORTED HIS CONVERSATION WITH OVINNIKOV TO WASHINGTON AND WASHINGTON HAD PROVIDED THE SAME ANSWER HE HAD GIVEN OVINNIKOV BUT THIS TIME IT HAD THE WEIGHT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE BEHIND IT. LEONARD THEN PRESENTED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 02374 262326Z

POINTS IN REFTEL (A) TO KHARLAMOV: (A) WE WANTED COOPERATION AND TO EXTEND POSSIBLE REGULAR CONSULTATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES WITH SOVIETS AT 32ND UNGA; (B) WE HAD NO INTENTION OF MOUNTING ANY COMPAIGNS OR ATTACKS AGAINST USSR AT 32ND UNGA; (C ON MATTERS SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS, OUR COMMENTS WOULD BE BASED UPON PRINCIPLE AND WOULD NOT BE DESIGNED TO ISOLATE ANYONE IN PARTICULR OR SUBJECT ANY ONE COUNTRY

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

TO SPECIAL CRITICISM AND WE WOULD EXPECT THESE COMMENTS TO BE DIRECTED TOWARDS CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTIONS ON THE BASIS OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED NORMS.

3. KHARLAMOV ASSURED LEONARD THAT THE SOVIET UNION ALSO DID NOT HAVE ANY INTENTIONS EITHER TO MAKE ATTACKS OR SEEK CONFRONTATIONS. HE RAISED A QUESTION, HOWEVER, REGARDING THE TERM "INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED NORMS." KHARLAMOV SAID THIS TERM HAD A "PHILOSOPHICAL" RING TO IT RATHER THAN ONE OF "REALITY". LEONARD EXPLAINED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT WE WOULD BE TRYING FOR INSTANCE, IN THIRD COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE MORE COMPLETE COVERAGE OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WE WOULD HOPE FOR DISCUSSION OF THESE PROBLEMS WITH A VIEW TO DEFINING SOLUTIONS AND TO INSTRUCTING SUBSIDIARY UN BODIES ON SUITABLE COURSES OF ACTION.

4. OVINNIKOV THEN ASSERTED THAT "DURING RECENT YEARS" THE USSR HAD NOT MOUNTED ATTACKS AGAINST THE US AT THE UN. LEONARD REPLIED THAT THIS QUESTION HAD ITS DIRECT AND INDIRECT ASPECTS. HE UNDERLINED THAT, AT A RECENT ILO MEETING, CONFRONTATION HAD DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE US AND ARAB STATES AND THAT, WHILE THE USSR HAD NOT BEEN AN IMMEDIATE PARTY TO THE CONFRONTATION, THE USSR, HAD ENCOURAGED THE ARABS. KHARLAMOV THEN SPOKE UP TO REPEAT THAT THE SOVIETS HAD NO INTENTION OF PROVOKING CONFRONTA-
CONFIDENTIAL

TION AT THE FORTHCOMING UNGA. HE ALLOWED THAT, FAR FROM SEEKING CONFRONTATION, THE USSR SOUGHT COMMON GROUND ON DISARMAMENT AND OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS. KHARLAMOV THEN RETURNED TO THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DESCRIBING ITS AS A "DOUBLE-EDGED WEAPON" WHICH COULD BRING NO GOOD FOR ANYONE.

5. LEONARD APPRECIATED KHARLAMOV'S ASSURANCES. HE ASKED KHARLAMOV TO PLEASE LET THE US KNOW WHENEVER THE SOVIET DELEGATION SENSED A SITUATION IN WHICH THE US APPEARED TO BE MOVING TOWARD CONFRONTATION. LEONARD CALLED FOR FRANK AND OPEN EXCHANGES BOTH WAYS. KHARLAMOV SAID THE SOVIET DELEGATION WOULD TRY TO DO SO.

6. LEONARD TURNED AGAIN TO HUMAN RIGHTS. HE STRESSED THAT THE US DID NOT CONSIDER UN HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY PERFECT. PRESIDENT CARTER, IN HIS UN ADDRESS IN MARCH, HAD MADE SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS. LEONARD SAID WAYS TO GET GENERAL SUPPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS NEEDED TO BE DETERMINED AS WELL AS WAYS TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY AND PROCEDURES. KHARLAMOV RESPONDED THAT IF THESE SUGGESTIONS WERE TO COME TRUE, THEY WOULD BE THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

FIRST ONE TO PROVE SO CONSTRUCTIVE.

7. IN CONCLUSION, KHARLAMOV THANKED LEONARD, SAYING THAT HE WANTED TO GIVE EVERY POSSIBLE ASSURANCE THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION WOULD TRY TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF COOPERATION. KHARLAMOV THEN ADDED THAT AT LEAST HALF THE UNGA AGENDA ITEMS COULD BE USEFULLY DROPPED. LEONARD AGREED, STRESSING THE DESIRABILITY OF FOCUSING ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS. LEONARD CONTINUED THAT THE US AND USSR SHOULD SEEK TO IMPRESS THIS POINT ON YUGOSLAV DEPUTY FOREIGN SECRETARY MOJSOV, WHO WOULD BE PRESIDENT OF THE NEXT UNGA. LEONARD AND KHARLAMOV ALSO CONSIDERED THAT US-USSR PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS COULD PROVE VALUABLE. KHARLAMOV SUGGESTED A DAY BETWEEN THE 8TH AND 12TH OF SEPTEMBER FOR THESE IN NEW YORK.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 USUN N 02374 262326Z

8. COMMENT: SOVIET RESERVE ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS WAS CLEAR. AS TO OVINNIKOV'S FUTURE (PARA 7, REF B), OVINNIKOV SAID THAT HE WOULD SOON BE LEAVING NEW YORK ON TRANSFER TO MOSCOW. HE CONSIDERED IT POSSIBLE THAT HE MIGHT BE RETURNING TO NEW YORK FOR THE UNGA BUT EVIDENCED NO CERTAINTY ABOUT THIS. END COMMENT.
YOUNG

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN02374
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770266-1266
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770716/aaaaanwz.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f5118663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 173345, 77 USUN NEW YORK 2264, 77 USUN NEW YORK 2266
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1741383
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-SOVIET RELATIONS AT 32ND UNGA
TAGS: SHUM, PORG, UR, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f5118663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009